

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 and 15 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A developing cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

 a cartridge frame;

 a developing roller configured and positioned to develop an electrostatic latent image formed on an electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

 a one-end frame groove provided at one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;

 a one-end bearing member configured and positioned to rotatably support a shaft provided at one longitudinal end of said developing roller extending in a longitudinal direction of said cartridge frame;

 a one-end bearing member cylinder, which is provided on said one-end bearing member and which has an outer surface; surface engaged with an inner surface of said one-end frame groove;

 a one-end side cover provided at one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame and configured and positioned to cover said one-end bearing member; and

 a one-end side cover projection provided inside said one-end side cover and engageable engaged with an inner surface of said one-end bearing member cylinder, which is engaged with the inner surface of said one-end frame groove.

2. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising an application roller configured and positioned to apply a developer on said developing roller, wherein said one-end bearing member is provided with a shaft projection opening for permitting projection of a shaft therethrough provided on one end of said application roller.

3. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1 or 2, further comprising a one-end guide, on an outer surface of said one-end side cover opposite from an inner surface of said one-end side cover on which said one-end side cover projection is provided, configured and positioned to guide said developing cartridge when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

4. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said one-end side cover has a retainer opening through which one end of a retaining portion is retractably projected, the retaining portion being configured and positioned to prevent said developing cartridge from disengaging from the main assembly of the apparatus when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

5. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising:
an other-end frame projection provided at the other longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;

an other-end bearing member configured and positioned to rotatably support an other-end shaft provided at the other longitudinal end of said developing roller extending in the longitudinal direction of said cartridge frame;

an elongated bearing member opening which is provided on said other-end bearing member and configured and positioned to receive said other-end frame projection therethrough;

an other-end side cover provided at the other longitudinal end of said cartridge frame and configured and positioned to cover said other-end bearing member; and

an other-end side cover cylinder provided on said other-end side cover and having an inner surface which is engaged with said other-end frame projection penetrating through said bearing member opening.

6. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 5, further comprising:

an application roller configured and positioned to apply a developer on said developing roller, wherein said other-end bearing member is provided with a shaft projection opening for permitting a shaft provided on an end of said application roller to penetrate therethrough; and

a developer accommodating portion configured to accommodate the developer and having a developer supply opening.

7. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 5, further comprising:

an other-end side cover projection provided inside said other-end side cover and engageable with an inner surface of an other-end bearing member cylinder engaged with an other-end frame groove provided at the other longitudinal end of said cartridge frame; and,

an other-end guide, provided on an outer surface of said other-end side cover opposite from an inner surface of said other-end side cover on which said other-end side cover projection is provided, configured and positioned to guide said developing cartridge when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

8. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 7, further comprising on said other-end side cover:

a retainer opening through which one end of a retaining portion configured and positioned to prevent said developing cartridge from disengaging from the main assembly of the apparatus when said developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus, is retractably projected.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for mounting a one-end side cover on a cartridge frame, comprising:

a one-end shaft supporting step of rotatably supporting, on a one-end bearing member, a one-end shaft provided at one longitudinal end of a developing roller;

a one-end bearing member cylinder engagement step of engaging a one-end bearing member cylinder provided on the one-end bearing member with a one-end frame groove

provided at one longitudinal end of the cartridge frame to mount the one-end bearing member on the cartridge frame; and

a one-end side cover projection engaging step of engaging a one-end side cover projection provided on the one-end side cover with an inner surface of the one-end bearing member cylinder engaged with the one-end frame groove.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising a shaft projection step of projecting a shaft provided at one end of an application roller configured to apply the developer on the developing roller through a shaft projection opening provided on the one-end bearing member when the one-end bearing member is mounted to the cartridge frame.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the cartridge frame is part of a developing cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said method further comprising:

a retainer member projecting step of projecting one end of a retaining member, configured and positioned to prevent the developing cartridge from disengaging from the apparatus, through a retaining member hole, when the one-end side cover is mounted to the cartridge frame, and the developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the image forming apparatus.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising:

an other-end shaft supporting step of rotatably supporting, on an other-end bearing member, an other-end shaft provided at another longitudinal end of the developing roller;

an other-end frame projection penetration step of penetrating an other-end frame projection provided at the another longitudinal end of the cartridge frame through a bearing member opening provided in an other-end bearing member to mount the other-end bearing member on the cartridge frame; and

an other-end side cover cylinder engaging step of engaging an other-end side cover cylinder of an other-end side cover with the other-end frame projection penetrating through the other-end bearing member opening.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 12, further comprising:

a shaft projection step of projecting a shaft provided on an end of an application roller, configured and positioned to apply the developer on the developing roller, through a shaft projection opening provided on the other-end bearing member.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 12, wherein the cartridge frame is part of a developing cartridge that is detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus, said method further comprising:

a retainer member projecting step of projecting one end of a retaining member, configured and positioned to prevent the developing cartridge from disengaging from the

apparatus, through a retaining member hole, when the one-end side cover is mounted to the cartridge frame, and the developing cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

15. (Currently Amended) An electrophotographic image forming apparatus for forming an image on a recording material, and to which a developing cartridge is detachably mountable, comprising:

(i) an electrophotographic photosensitive drum; and

(ii) a mounting portion configured and positioned to detachably mount the developing cartridge, which includes a cartridge frame, a developing roller configured and positioned to develop an electrostatic latent image formed on said electrophotographic photosensitive drum, a one-end frame groove provided at one longitudinal end of the cartridge frame, a one-end bearing member configured and positioned to rotatably support a one-end shaft provided at one longitudinal end of the developing roller extending in a longitudinal direction of the cartridge frame, a one-end bearing member cylinder, which is provided on the one-end bearing member, member and which has an outer surface engaged with an inner surface of the one-end frame groove, a one-end side cover provided at one longitudinal end of the cartridge frame and covering the one-end bearing member, and a one-end side cover projection provided on an inside of the one-end side cover and engaged with an inner surface of the one-end bearing member cylinder, which is engaged with the inner surface of the one-end frame groove.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a one-end frame projection provided at said one longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;

and

an elongated bearing member opening which is provided on said one-end bearing member through which said one-end frame projection penetrates.

18. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a first metal projection provided on an outer surface of said one-end bearing member opposite from an inner side surface of said one-end bearing member on which said one-end bearing member cylinder is provided;

a first opening provided in said one-end side cover and engageable with said first projection; and

a first screw configured and positioned to secure said one-end side cover to said first projection provided on said one-end bearing member.

19. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a second metal projection which is provided on said one-end bearing member and which supports a gear configured and positioned to receive a driving force from the main assembly of the apparatus when said cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus; and

a second opening provided in said one-end side cover and engageable with said second metal projection.

20. (Previously Presented) A developing cartridge according to Claim 5, further comprising:

an other-end frame groove provided at the other longitudinal end of said cartridge frame;
an other-end bearing member cylinder, provided on said other-end bearing member, engaged with an inner surface of said other-end frame groove; and
an other-end side cover projection provided inside said other-end side cover and engageable with an inner surface of the other-end bearing member cylinder engaged with the inner surface of said other-end frame groove.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising:

a one-end frame projection penetration step of penetrating a one-end frame projection provided at the one longitudinal end of the cartridge frame through a bearing member opening provided in the one-end bearing member to mount the one-end bearing member on the cartridge frame.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 9, further comprising:

a first projection engagement step of engaging a first metal projection provided on the one-end bearing member with a first opening provided in the one-end side cover; and

a one-end side cover screwing step of screwing a screw into a screw bore provided on the first metal projection provided in the one-end bearing member through an opening provided in the one-end side cover.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 13, further comprising, a second projection engagement step of engaging a second metal projection provided on the one-end bearing member with a second opening provided in the one-end bearing member.